

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENT

Please replace paragraph [0003], on page 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0003] There is an extensive history of the use of histocultured tumor samples for use in prognosis of tumor development and as a tool for predicting responsiveness to drugs. These histochemical techniques, which are the basis of histoculture drug response assay (HDRA™), have an extensive literature. ~~A bibliography describing the use of three-dimensional histocultures, as applied in this manner, is attached to the present application as an appendix.~~ The general features of this technique are described, for example, in a recent paper by Singh, B., *et al.*, *Head and Neck* (2002) 24:437-442. As described in this paper, briefly, biopsied tissue is washed and cut into 1 to 2 mm³ fragments and placed onto 0.5 cm² pieces of collagen sponge-gel (Gel Foam, Pharmacia & Upjohn, Inc.) in equal quantities. The sponge-gel cultures are then placed into DMEM/Ham's F12 medium with 10% fetal calf serum and gentamicin (50 µg/ml). The cultures are then incubated for 24 hours at 37°C and 5% CO₂. Modifications of this technique are also permissible, provided the three-dimensional nature of the sample is preserved.